



J. H. Doolittle

James Harold Doolittle

AWARD WINNER

The Aero Club of Northern California

First Annual Awards Banquet

December 17th, 1982

Sainte Claire Hilton

San Jose, California

GENERAL JAMES H. DOOLITTLE

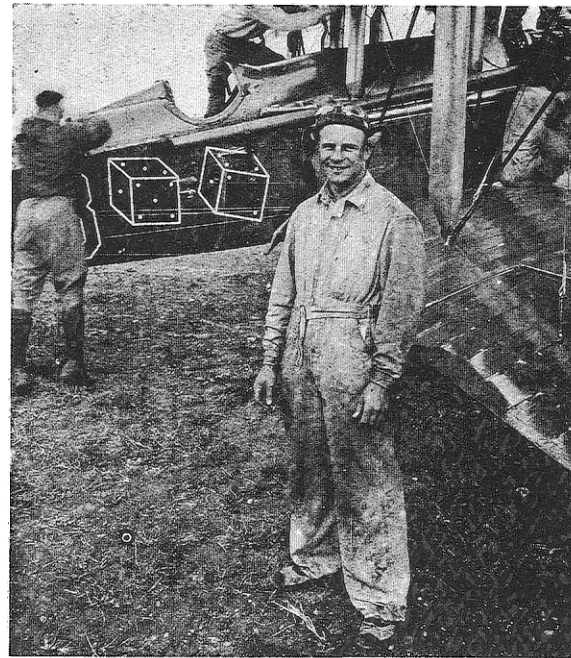
James Harold Doolittle and aviation grew up together. Barely a decade after the Wright Brothers first flew on Dec. 17, Jimmy Doolittle was busy making full scale gliders and motorized aircraft in his parents backyard. From that point on the man and the plane were inseparable. He went on to blaze a brilliant career in the skies, not only as a pilot of incomparable skill and courage, but also as one of the first Ph.D.s in aeronautical engineering.

In 1917, Doolittle won his wings in the Army's Signal Corps Reserve. Among his many accomplishments he became the first man to fly across the U.S. in less than 24 hours in 1922. In 1927, he completed the first ever 'outside loop' in an airplane. He pioneered total instrument or 'blind' flying in 1929 when he took off, flew a set course, and landed without seeing outside the cockpit. He won the coveted Schneider Trophy in 1925 setting a new world record for seaplanes. He also set the land plane speed record in 1932.

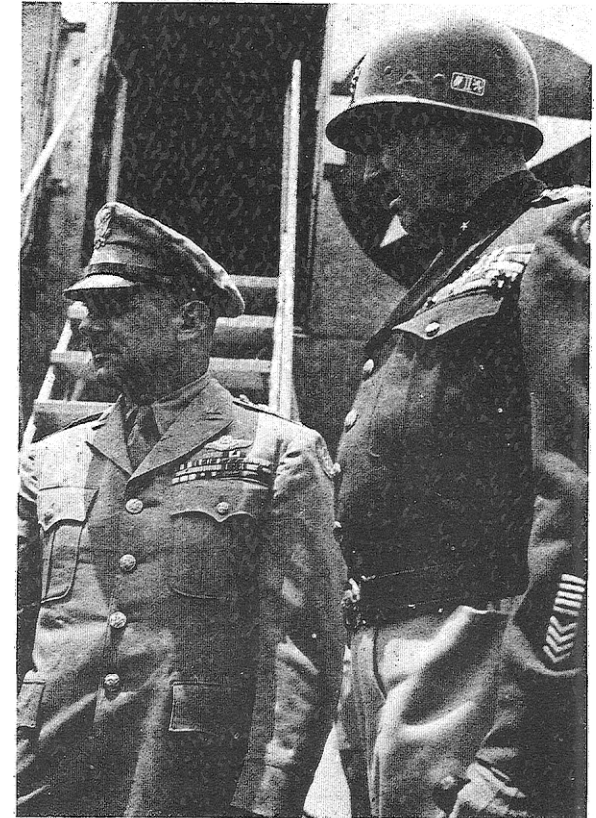
The feat however that fixed Gen. Doolittle most securely in the annals of history was his daring World War II bombing raid on Tokyo. Just five months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Doolittle led his squadron of B-25 bombers off the deck of the U.S.S. Hornet in a spectacular surprise raid on the Japanese mainland. This dangerous one-way journey showed the Japanese they had grossly miscalculated the American fighting force. Promoted to Lt. General, he served as commanding general of the 12th, 15th, and 8th Air Forces between 1942 and 1945.

Few more colorful figures have graced the pages of American history. General Doolittle is truly a man by which we can measure a nation. He approaches life with a zest and energy that reflects and inspires the kind of nationalism that helped this country emerge in the 20th century as a world super power.

He not only exhibits the daring of a top notch stunt pilot, but also the cool concentration of a superb aeronautical scientist. It is this duality that most clearly distinguishes the man, the courage to take the risk; and the knowledge to make it work.



Jimmy Doolittle and the 90th
Aero Squadron, 1920.



With General George Patton
shortly after the end of World
War II.

**AERO CLUB OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
FIRST ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER**

December 17, 1982

P R O G R A M

Master of Ceremonies
Francis T. Fox

Introduction Francis T. Fox

Welcome Roger S. Coen

Invocation

Dinner

Presentation of Award
General James H. Doolittle

Guest Speaker Honorable Darrell Trent,
Deputy Secretary,
Department of Transportation